

Dewatering Well installation (IDNR)

A dewatering well installation, if temporary, requires a report to be sent to IDNR, Division of Water. If the well is to be permanent then a registration of the well will be required. The Indiana Code provides protection for domestic well owners against the impact of high capacity ground-water pumpage if it substantially lowers water levels, resulting in the failure of a domestic well. INDOT or its contractors may be liable under this statute if dewatering operations associated with construction result in failure of neighboring domestic well.

WHO MUST REGISTER

Indiana Code 14-25-7 requires every person who has a significant water withdrawal facility to register that facility with the Natural Resources Commission. A water withdrawal facility can be considered to include any and all well, surface water intakes, pumping apparatus or other installation which supply water to a common collection and/or distribution point. As defined by the statute, a **significant water withdrawal facility** means the water withdrawal facilities of a person that, in the aggregate from all sources and by all methods, has the capability of withdrawing more than one-hundred thousand (100,000) gallons of ground water, surface water, or ground and surface water combined in one (1) day; however, this does not include water withdrawal facilities located in or on an off stream impoundment that is principally supplied by a significant water withdrawal facility. If the dewatering well will be temporary, a report must be sent to IDNR, Division of Water. If the well is to be permanent, then a registration of the well will be required.

312 IAC 13-8-4 Dewatering wells Sec. 4.

- (a) This section establishes standards for dewatering wells which are in addition to the general requirements for drilling a well under this article.
- (b) A dewatering well shall be equipped with casing having a nominal diameter of at least one and one-fourth (1¼) inches. The casing shall be clean and free of grease, oil, or other contaminants that would impact water quality.
- (c) Upon installation, a dewatering well must be fitted with a temporary cap which remains in place until pumping equipment is installed. The cap shall be of a type that prevents vermin or other potential contaminants from entering the well.
- (d) Earthen materials shall be placed around the well casing to drain surface water away from the dewatering well. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 13-8-4; filed Nov 22, 1999, 3:34 p.m.: 23 IR 772*)